

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 SP-02

USIA-06 AID-05 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 L-03 H-02 /104 W

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R 201703Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9845

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

INFO AMEMASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEBASSY TANANARIVE

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EPAP, BR IV

SUB: RUMORED BRAZILIAN PURCHASE OF IVORIAN COFFEE

REF: A) STATE 202257, B) BRASILIA 7220, C) BRASILIA 7289

D) ABIDJAN 4053, E) ABIDJAN 4917

1. ON AUGUST 18, CHARGE AND E/C CHIEF CALLED ON
RENE AMANY, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE IVORIAN
MARKETING, BOARD, TO ASK ONCE AGAIN IF THERE WERE
ANY TRUTH IN RUMORS OF COFFEE SALES BY IVORY
COAST TO BRAZIL, ON THIS OCCASION CITING FIGURE
IN REFTTEL A. AMANY SAID IVORY COAST HAD BEEN
APPROACHED BY BRAZIL, BUT HAD NOT SOLD ANY
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COFFEE TO IT, AND HE REITERATED THAT HE DID NOT

BELIVE IVORY COAST HAD ANY INTENTION OF SELLING COFFEE TO BRAZIL. AMANAY HAD NEVER HEARD OF FIGURE CITED AS "REPORTED PRUCHASE (334,000 FROM IVORY COAST.."). HE SAID THAT IVORY COAST HAD OBLIGATION TO TRADITIONAL CUSTOMERS WHICH ARE CONSUMNG NATIONS WHO DO NOT PRODUCE COFFEE. BRAZIL COULD RESELL IVORIAN ROBUSTA IN EXPORT MARKETS, THEREFORE PROFITEERING FROM SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT. FROM ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT, HE SAW NO ADVANTAGE TO IVORY COAST IN SELLING COFFEE TO BRAZIL. WE ALSO TOOK OCCASION TO REMIND AMANY THAT WHEN QUOTAS ARE ESTABLISHED, WHICH WOULD BE INPART BASED ON EXPORT PERFORAMANCE ONLY EXPORT TO NON-PRODUCING COUNTRIES WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. AMANY UNDERSTOOD.

2. NEVERTHELESS, AMANY HEDGED, NOTING THAT SALE TO BRAZIL WOULD BE POLITICAL DECISION OUT OF HIS DOMAIN.HE SAID HE IS BASICALLY A TECHNICIAN, AND FOR POLITICAL REASONS IVORY COAST MIGHT AT SOME POINT DECIDE TO SELL COFFEE TO BRAZIL. HE DOUBTED THIS WOULD HAPPEN, BUT WAS NOT IN POSITION TO GIVE US IRONCLAD ASSURANCES.

3. COMMENT: AMANY IS INTELLIGENT, AMBITIOUS, AND SOMEWHAT NEW TO THE JOB (TO WHICH HE WAS APPOINTED APPROXIMATELY A YEAR AGO). HE IS KNOWN TO HEDGE HIS BETS AND IS RELUCTANT TO MAKE CATEGORIACAL STATMENTS. HOWEVER, NEITHER HE NOR WE HAVE ANY REASON TO BELIVE GOIC HAS ALTERED ITS POSITION THAT IT WILL NOT RPT NOT SELL ANY COFFEE TO BRAZIL. END COMMENT. COOKE

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Message Attributes

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